IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Abstract

Dates stored in symbolic form in a database are reformatted to permit easy

5   manipulation and sorting of date-related information. Each date in M_1M_2, D_1D_2,
and Y_1Y_2 format is converted to C_1C_2, Y_1Y_2, [M]M_1M_2, and D_1D_2 format. To
accomplish the conversion, a 10-decade window starting on Y_AY_B is defined that
encompasses all dates in the database. The value of C_1C_2 is determined by the
relative values of Y_1Y_2 and Y_AY_B. The reformatted date information is particularly

10   useful when the reformatting is in $C_1C_2Y_1Y_2M_1M_2D_1D_2$ format, because sorting by
date is accomplished using a pure numerical-value sort.

Please amend the Specification by adding the following to the end of the
Specification:

15   !   - -Century Conversion - -
!   Bruce Dickens   Apr 04, 1996
!
!
10   open structure toos:name 'otms_src_dir:tools'
20   _____   open #2 : name 'last_inv.dat', access output
_____   print "   Tools 'Last Inventory Data Format' Check for 1996 Inventory"
_____   print "Tool No   "; " Model No   "; "   LAST_INV "; "LAST INV
"
_____   print "======   "; " =======   "; " ======== "; "========
25   _____   print "Extract Data:"
_____   print #2: "ToolNo   "; "   Model No "; " LAST_INV   ";
"LAST_INV"
_____   print #2: "=====   "; " ======= "; " ========   ";
"========"
30   _____   print #2: "Extract Data"

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20        extract structure tools
          yy$ = lpad$ (element$ (tools (last_inv),3,"/"), 2, "0")
          mm$ = lpad$ (element$ (tools (last_inv),1,"/"), 2, "0")
5         dd$ = lpad$ (element$ (tools (last_inv),2,"/"), 2, "0")
          cc$= yy$ + "/" + mm$ + dd$
          c1$ = change$ (cc$, '/', '')
          if c1$[1:2] , '50' then
          c$ = '20' + c1$
10        else
          c$= '19' + c1$
          end if
!         include c$ , '19960101'
          sort by tools(model)
15        sort by rpad$(c$,8, '0')
!         if c$[1:8] , '19960101' then
          print tools(toolno) ; tab (23); tools(model); &
                    tab(35); toos(last_inv); tab(44); c$
          print #2:   tools(toolno) ; tab (23); tools(model); &
20                    tab(35); toos(last_inv); tab(44); c$
          if valid ( c1$, "digits" ) = 0 then
          print; tab(53); " Date format is not digits"
          print #2: ;tab(53); " Date format is not digits"
          end if
25 !      if valid ( c1$, "minlength 6" ) = 0 then
!         print; tab(50); " Date format is short"
!         print #2: ;tab(50); " Date format is short"
!         end if
          if tools(last_inv) = "" then
30        print; tab(53); " Date format is blank"
          print #2: ;tab(53); " Date format is blank"
```

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